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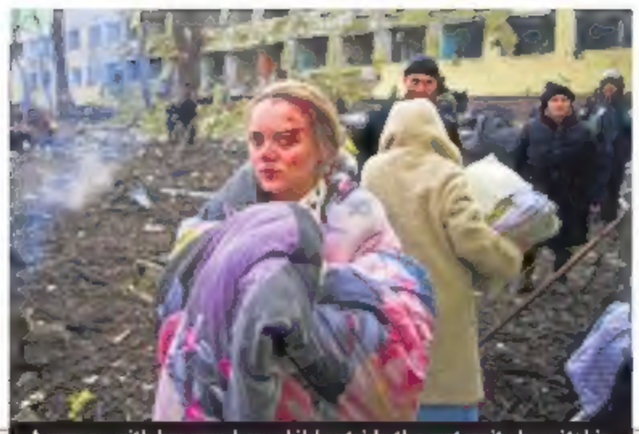

A woman with her new-born child outside the maternity hospital in Mariupol, Ukraine that was damaged in Russian shelling | AFP

35 KILLED AS RUSSIA BOMBS MILITARY BASE

The attack on the Ukrainian military facility, just 25 km from Poland's border, hurt 135 people, Ukrainian officials said

War at NATO's doorstep

The training base near Yavoriv appears to be the westernmost target struck so far. Poland is a key transit route for arms destined for Ukraine. US warned Russia it will face a strong response if any NATO countries come under attack

India shifts mission

India has decided to temporarily relocate its embassy in Ukraine to Poland. The embassy was moved from Kyiv to Lviv earlier. The latest move comes as Russia has expanded attack to Ukraine's west

MODI HOLDS SECURITY REVIEW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was briefed about the situation in Ukraine at meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security on Sunday. "The prime minister was also briefed on the latest developments in Ukraine, including the details of Operation Ganga to evacuate Indian nationals, along with some citizens of neighbouring countries, from Ukraine," an official statement said

US journalist shot dead

A US journalist was shot dead and another wounded on Sunday in Irpin, a frontline northwest suburb of Kyiv, AFP quoted medics as saying. They were reportedly shot while travelling in a car

More aid for Ukraine

US President Joe Biden authorised $200 million in additional military equipment to Ukraine. It comes as Russia warned it will target arms supplies to Ukraine | P8

26 lakh

PEOPLE HAVE FLED UKRAINE SO FAR

Over four million people could leave Ukraine, according to the United Nations. That figure is likely to be revised

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Same old script, CWC keeps faith in Sonia

Several leaders want Rahul Gandhi to take over as party president

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi gestures to senior party leader Rahul Gandhi at the Congress Working Committee meeting on Sunday | PTI

CONGRESS president Sonia Gandhi will continue to lead the party till a new president is elected later this year. However, during the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meet on Sunday, she said the Gandhi family is ready to make any sacrifice for the future of the party.

During the four-and-half-hour meeting, Sonia said if the CWC feels that the family is responsible for the state of the party, "she will abide by the wisdom of the CWC".

"The CWC unanimously reaffirms its faith in the leadership of Sonia Gandhi and requests the Congress President to lead from the front, address the organisational weaknesses, effect necessary & comprehensive organisational changes in order to take on the political challenges," said General Secretary in charge of organisation KC Venugopal.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi said the party needs to look at new strategies to counter the BJP as old strategies won't work. Sources said senior party leader and member of G23 Ghulam Nabi Azad called to fix responsibility for the party's poll debacle and Sonia agreed. He also talked about certain late decisions including leadership change in Punjab and the election management in Uttarakhand. Sonia replied she was the one shielding former Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh for long.

General Secretary in charge of UP, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said there was no organsiation in the state when she started, but the work done by her and the state unit will bear fruit.

The CWC agreed to hold a *Chintan Shivir* after the budget session of Parliament in April to brainstorm future strategies. "Every leader wants Rahul ji to lead the party but the election process has started and August 20 is the date for the presidential election," said media in charge RS Surjewala.

Meanwhile, the Congress said it would work with like-minded parties during the second half of the budget session starting on Monday to raise people-related issues of unemployment, inflation and evacuation of Indian students from Ukraine. P7

Yogi meets PM Modi ahead of govt formation

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath | PTI

DAYS after an emphatic win in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday. Adityanath, who had resigned on March 11 to pave way for constituting a new assembly, also met the BJP top brass including home minister Amit Shah, national chief JP Nadda, and national general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh, ahead of government formation.

According to highly-placed sources, Adityanath discussed giving adequate representation to all the castes in the new cabinet. There were also indications on discussions about increasing the number of deputy CMs from two to three or four. The role of ex-deputy CM Keshav Maurya, a prominent OBC face of the party, who faced a shocking defeat in Sirathu by SP's Pallavi Patel, was also discussed.

Though the party's state leadership was tight-lipped on what transpired during Sunday's meetings, it is learnt that names like UP BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh, former Uttarakhand governor and BJP vice-president Baby Rani Maurya and former law minister Brijesh Pathak were doing the rounds for prominent roles.

While Dev Singh is an important Kurmi leader and an MLC, Rani Maurya is a Jatav and won from Agra Rural. The party is believed to be planning to give responsibilities to new faces to inculcate fresh leadership. Prospects of Pankaj Singh, defence minister Rajnath Singh's son and Noida MLA, getting a ministerial post looks bright. The saffron brigade will keep 2024 Lok Sabha polls in mind before finalising the names.

BYPOLL: TMC TO FIELD FORMER UNION MINISTERS

Shatrughan Sinha

Babul Supriyo

The Trinamool Congress on Sunday said it will field former Union ministers Shatrughan Sinha and Babul Supriyo in the upcoming bypolls. Sinha will contest for Asansol Lok Sabha seat and Supriyo for Ballygunge assembly seat

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CM RULES OUT POSSIBILITY OF EARLY ASSEMBLY POLLS IN STATE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday ruled out the possibility of early Assembly elections in the state. "It is just speculation and there has been no discussion about it at any level in the party," he said, responding to a question on early elections after BJP won Assembly polls in four of the five states.

There were talks of holding the state and Gujarat Assembly polls together in December. BJP National General Secretary CT Ravi too had said there was no need for early elections as it would not help either Karnataka or Gujarat.

Bommai said, "I can tell you categorically that no one from BJP will defect to other parties. On leaders from other parties joining BJP, just wait and watch."

He said the BJP State Executive meeting on March 30 and 31 will decide on the proposed state tour of party leaders and other issues. Former chief minister BS Yediyurappa had earlier said he and other party leaders will start the state tour after the ongoing legislative session ends on March 30.

On cabinet expansion, Bommai said he will visit New Delhi when he gets a call from the party high command to discuss it.

Daylong power cuts return, more so on weekends

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

IT is just the beginning of summer and already, Bengaluru is experiencing power cuts stretching for an entire day, especially during weekends.

There is more pain to come as Bescom officials said that scheduled and unscheduled power cuts in different areas will continue for another six to eight months as they are racing against a deadline to shift all overhead cables underground before the onset of monsoon.

The power supply company is resorting to power cuts despite the state reporting surplus production of power. While the work continues during the week, the major part is taken up during weekends leading to power cuts from 10 am to 7 pm, they explained.

"It has been the third consecutive weekend where there have been power cuts. While Bescom announces the power cut till 5 pm, it continues till 7 pm or 8 pm. They say it is because of scheduled maintenance works," said agitated Pradeep K, a resident of Magadi Road. CONTINUED ON: P2

PUNEETH TO GET DOCTORATE FROM MYSORE VARSITY

In recognition of late actor Puneeth Rajkumar's contributions in the field of cinema and philanthropy | P5

EXPRESS READ

B'luru flight diverted, but passenger dies

Bengaluru: An AirAsia India flight, carrying 169 passengers on board from Bengaluru to Kolkata on Sunday, had to be diverted to Bhubaneswar after a 33-year-old male passenger developed health issues. He was rushed to a hospital from the airport, but was declared brought dead | P3

Pant breaks Kapil's Test '50' record

Bengaluru: Wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant on Sunday broke Kapil Dev's 40-year-old record of the fastest Test fifty by an Indian on the second day of the Day/Night match against Sri Lanka here. Pant cruised to his 50 in 28 balls in the 42nd over of Indian second innings | P11

NATIONWIDE	MAR 12	MAR 13
Fresh cases	3,614	3,116
Recoveries	5,185	5,559
Deaths	89	47

KARNATAKA	MAR 12	MAR 13
Fresh cases	136	164
Recoveries	275	130
Deaths	2	0

RAMAIAH UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

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6th CONVOCATION
MARCH 14, 2022
10.30am onwards

Chief Guest

Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe
Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
shall deliver the convocation address

Dr. M.R. Jayaram
Hon'ble Chancellor, MSRUAS
shall preside over the function

Venue: Gnanagangothri Campus,
New BEL Road, MSR Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 054.

https://www.msruas.ac.in/convocation-2022-live

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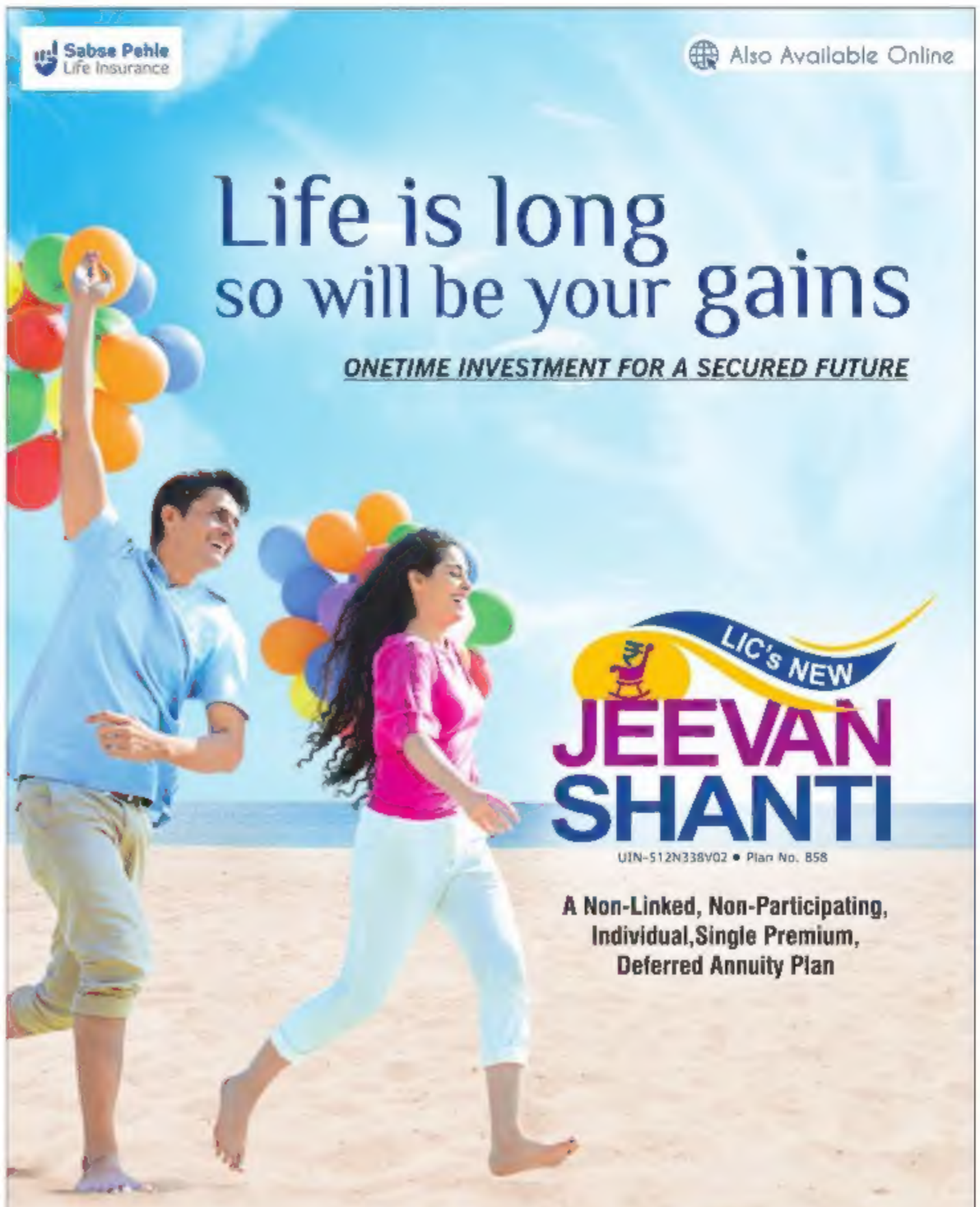

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